

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 14-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carus '268 in view of McKeown and in further view of Matsubayashi. Without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue these claims in a continuing application, and in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the present application, these claims have now been cancelled. The rejection is now moot.

The remaining claims 3-9 and 11-13 have been allowed. Therefore, the present application is in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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